Interlinking of rivers project

†877. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has declared rivers linking project as devastating;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and details thereof;

(c) whether this project has been cancelled; and

(d) if so, the details of expenditure of Rs. 20 to 30 crores annually by Government on National Water Development Agency engaged in this project and whether this expenditure is necessary, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Dose not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Dose not arise.

Digging up shallow tube wells in areas of drought

878. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to launch an ambitious scheme to dig over a million shallow tube wells in areas reeling under drought where ground water has not been over-exploited;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to dig around 13.34 lakh tube wells, bore wells, dug wells in scanty and deficient rainfall areas this year;

(c) whether under this scheme contours and exact details are still being worked; and

(d) if so, by when official decision in this regard is likely to be taken and projects are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (d) The scheme for "promoting installation of tube wells/bore wells and construction of dug wells in order to augment availability of water for agriculture and drinking water supply" has not been finalized.

Water in Rajasthan

"879. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:
DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.